

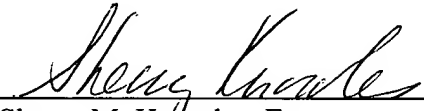
REMARKS

Response to Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has restricted the prosecution of the present application to Group I (claims 1, 30-37) or Group II (claims 5, 8 and 38-45). Applicants confirm the election of the claims of Group I, without traverse.

The claims of Group I are directed to a method of increasing bone mass at least 10% in a host without a loss in bone strength or quality.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (amended) A method for increasing bone mass at least 10% in a host without a loss in bone strength or quality comprising [is provided that includes] administering an effective amount of a compound that (i) binds to the estrogen α or β receptor (or the equivalent receptor in the host animal) with an association constant of at least 10^8 M^{-1} [, and preferably, at least 10^{10} M^{-1}]; (ii) (a) induces estrogenic gene transcriptional activity at a level that is no greater than 10% that of 17β -estradiol[, and preferably no greater than 5, 1 or even 0.1% that of 17β -estradiol] when administered *in vivo* at concentrations of 10^{-11} to 10^{-7} M a dosage of at least 0.1 ng/kg body weight or *in vitro* in osteoblastic or osteocytic cells with natural estrogen receptors or cells transfected with estrogen receptors or (b) induces an increase in uterine weight of no more than 10% that of 17β -estradiol (or the equivalent compound in a host animal); (iii) induces the phosphorylation of extracellular signal regulated kinase (ERK) when administered *in vivo* at a dosage of at least 0.1 ng/kg body weight or *in vitro* at concentrations of 10^{-11} to 10^{-7} M in osteoblastic cells with natural estrogen receptors or cells transfected with estrogen receptors; and (iv) has an anti-apoptotic effect on osteoblasts at an *in vitro* dosage of at least 0.1 ng/kg body weight *in vitro* in osteoblastic or osteocytic cells with natural estrogen receptors or cells transfected with estrogen receptors.

31. (amended) The method of claim 30[31], wherein the second pharmaceutical agent is bone anti-resorption agent.

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32. (amended) The method of claim 30[31] wherein the second pharmaceutical agent is a bone mass anabolizing agent.

33. (amended) The method of claim 30[31], wherein the second pharmaceutical agent is an antioxidant.

34. (amended) The method of claim 30[31], wherein the second pharmaceutical agent is a dietary supplement.

35. (amended) The method of claim 30[31], wherein the second pharmaceutical agent increases the beneficial effect of the active compound on bone structure, strength or mass.

36. (amended) The method of claim 30[31], wherein the second pharmaceutical agent is selected from the group consisting of an anabolic steroid, a bisphosphonate, a calcitonin, an estrogen or progestogen, an anti-estrogens such as raloxifene or tamoxifene, parathyroid hormone, fluoride, Vitamin D or a derivative thereof, or a calcium preparation.

37. (amended) The method of claim 30[31], wherein the second pharmaceutical agent is selected from the group consisting of alendronic acid, disodium clondronate, disodium etidronate, disodium pamidronate, neridronic acid, risedronic acid, teriparatide acetate, tiludronic acid, ipriflavone, potassium bicarbonate, progestogen, a thiazide, gallium nitrate, NSAIDS, plicamycin, aluminum hydroxide, calcium acetate, calcium carbonate, calcium magnesium carbonate, and sucralfate.